



FAIRFAX COUNTY PARK AUTHORITY

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For Immediate Release

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Great Parks, Great Communities

Planning Initiative Goes Countywide

Having a say in what your community parks and recreational facilities will look like in the future is very important. Especially when eight out of ten Fairfax County residents indicate they've visited park facilities in the past year. That's what the Great Parks, Great Communities planning initiative is all about: hearing from you today about the park needs of tomorrow.

Each of us can play an important role in preserving and protecting, and even planning the parks of the future. The Fairfax County Park Authority seeks your input! Great Parks, Great Communities is an exciting new planning process initiated to get your ideas for balancing Fairfax County's future park needs and resources, within each district of the County.

Parks are a critical element in healthy, thriving communities. They are places set aside for the protection and enhancement of environmental values. They are places where our cultural heritage can be explored and brought to life. They are also places for leisure enjoyment and recreation that improve the physical and mental well being for all residents.

The first phase of this project involves assessing the current park system. This will be accomplished through "Existing Condition Reports" that describe current park resources within each area. In the second phase, the Park Authority will seek input from park users and community residents to gain an improved understanding of the park system from varying perspectives throughout the County. These public open house/meetings, set for 7 p.m., begin later this month as indicated below:

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| • Tuesday, January 29th-Sully District
Chantilly High School | • Tuesday, March 11th-Providence District
Luther Jackson Middle School |
| • Wednesday, February 6th-Hunter Mill
Langston Hughes Middle School | • Tuesday, March 25th-Mt Vernon
Newington Forest Elementary School |
| • Tuesday, February 19th-Braddock Dist.
Kings Park Library | • Thursday, March 27th-Mt Vernon
Walt Whitman Middle School |
| • Tuesday, February 26th-Lee District
Garfield Elementary School | • Tuesday, April 8th-Dranesville District
Langley High School |
| • Tuesday, March 5th-Mason District
Mason District Government Center | • Tuesday, April 22nd-Springfield District
West Springfield High School |

The end result will be the development of a long-range guide for future planning and development of the Fairfax County park system. The final document will be approved by the Park Authority Board and serve as the basis for the County's Comprehensive Plan Amendment to update the park recommendations. For more information contact the Planning and Development Division at 703-324-8741.

703-324-8700 • TTY: 703-803-3354 • ONLINE: www.fairfaxcounty.gov/parks • E-MAIL: parkmail@fairfaxcounty.gov



Fairfax County is committed to a policy of nondiscrimination in all county programs, services and activities and will provide reasonable accommodations upon request. To request special accommodations, call 703-324-8563 or TTY 703-803-3354. Please allow ten working days in advance of events in order to make the necessary arrangements.